

THE CONSTITUTION AND THE UNION.

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RESOLUTIONS

OF

THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF OHIO,

ON

*The state of the Republic.*

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JANUARY 18, 1861.—Laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

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“1. That the people of Ohio, believing that the preservation of the unity of government that constituted the American people *one people*, is essential to the support of their tranquillity at home, of their peace abroad, of their safety, of their prosperity, and of that very liberty which they so highly prize, are firmly and ardently attached to the national Constitution and the union of the States.

“2. That the general government cannot permit the secession of any State without violating the obligations by which it is bound, under the compact, to the other States and to every citizen of the United States.

“3. That while the constitutional rights of every State in the Union should be preserved inviolate, the powers and authority of the national government must be maintained, and the laws of Congress faithfully enforced, in every State and Territory, until repealed by Congress or adjudged to be unconstitutional by the proper judicial tribunal; and all attempts by State authorities to nullify the Constitution of the United States or the laws of the federal government, or to resist the execution thereof, are revolutionary in their character, and tend to the disruption of the best and wisest system of government of the world.

“4. That the people of Ohio are inflexibly opposed to intermeddling with the internal affairs and domestic relations of other States of the Union; in the same manner and to the same extent as they are opposed to any interference by the people of other States with their domestic concerns.

“5. That it is the will and purpose of the people of Ohio to fulfil, in good faith, all their obligations under the Constitution of the United

States, according to the spirit and intent thereof; and they demand the faithful discharge of the same duty by every State in the Union; and thus, as far as may be, to insure tranquillity between the State of Ohio and the other States.

"6. That it is incumbent upon any States having enactments on their statute books conflicting with or rendering less efficient the Constitution or laws of the United States, to repeal them; and it is equally incumbent upon the general government and the several States to secure to every citizen of the Union his rights in every State under that provision of the Constitution which guarantees to the citizens of each State all the privileges and immunities of the citizens in the several States, and thus inspire and restore confidence and a spirit of fraternal feeling between the different States of the Union.

"7. That the Union-loving citizens of those States who have labored, and still labor, with devotional courage and patriotism, to withhold their States from the vortex of secession, are entitled to the gratitude of the whole American people.

"8. That we hail with joy the recent firm, dignified, and patriotic message of the President of the United States, and that the entire power and resources of Ohio are hereby pledged, whenever necessary and demanded for the maintenance, under strict subordination to the civil authority, of the Constitution and laws of the general government, by whomsoever administered.

"9. That the governor be requested to forward, forthwith, copies of the foregoing resolutions to the President of the nation, and to the governors of all the States of the Union, and to each of the senators and representatives in Congress from this State, to be by them presented to each branch of the national legislature."